

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

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Please amend page 20, first paragraph, as follows:

Septum mat 40 is situated below plate 30, between plate 30 and the rims of vessels 16.

Q1 Protrusions [[37]] 39 protrude through mat 40 and out the lower surface thereof. When required, inert gas can be introduced into upper plate 32 and will pass through plate 30, and protrusions 37 extending downwardly therefrom, into the vessels 16. Mat 40 is preferably 5mm thick, consisting of tan case PTFE Teflon bonded to white silicone rubber.
